

News Release

From the Bar Harbor Economic Development Task Force

April 16, 2010

### **State asks Internet users to test connection speed**

Residents who want better access to high-speed Internet service on Mount Desert Island and in other parts of rural Maine can help their cause by testing the speed of their current Internet connection on a state-sponsored website.

The test is available at <http://connectmespeedtest.maine.gov> and typically takes about one minute to complete, or a bit longer for slower connections. It is sponsored by the Connect ME Authority, an agency created by the Maine legislature to establish broadband access in the most rural, unserved areas of the state that have little prospect of service from a traditional provider. Data from the test will help the Authority identify unserved areas of the state and help policymakers develop a long-term plan for enhancing the social and economic opportunities that high-speed Internet access provides.

Gaining better broadband access throughout Bar Harbor is a goal of the Town's Economic Development Task Force and a recommendation of the Communications Technology Task Force. It is especially important that residents who do not currently have access to a high-speed internet connection -- those who can only get dial-up service -- take this test, in order to get a complete service map of the town.

For more information about the test, Internet users can contact the Connect ME Authority at [Connect.ME@maine.gov](mailto:Connect.ME@maine.gov) or 207-624-9970.

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